

CITY OF DURHAM Office of Public Affairs 101 CITY HALL PLAZA DURHAM, NC 27701

## **News Release**

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## **Durham Hosts Little Lick Creek Watershed Meeting November 12**

Public Information Session Set for Watershed Improvement Plan Update

DURHAM, N.C. – Durham residents interested in the progress made on the <u>Little Lick Creek</u>

<u>Watershed Improvement Plan</u> should mark their calendars now for a public information session next month.

On Thursday, November 12 from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at the <u>Durham County East Regional Library</u>, 211 Lick Creek Lane, residents will have the opportunity to learn about the potential improvement projects coming to this watershed.

The Little Lick Creek watershed includes areas of eastern Durham between U.S. Highway 70 and Falls Lake. Some of the major neighborhoods in the watershed are Grove Park, Hidden Hollow, Stonehill, and Twin Lakes. Other landmarks in the watershed are the Durham County East Regional Library, Oak Grove Elementary School, and Southern High School.

During next month's meeting, the <u>City of Durham Public Works Department Stormwater and GIS Services Division</u> will share resident feedback received during the May 2014 public meeting and present results of the completed watershed assessment, which includes current conditions of the watershed and its streams. The results of the watershed assessment will lead to potential watershed improvement projects, and City staff will present several initial options as well as show how everyday activities, weather conditions, population shifts, and development activities impact Durham's creeks, rivers, ponds, and lakes.

In April 2014, the City's Stormwater and GIS Services Division with the Public Works

Department launched the project to help identify and select improvement projects to clean up

and revitalize this watershed as well as comply with water quality regulations. The field portion of the assessment lasted through June 2014 with field crews conducting stream walks in neighborhoods throughout the watershed, looking at the current condition of the stream, and evaluating existing stormwater control measures. Over 25 miles of stream were surveyed for overall stream quality, evidence of stream bank erosion, water quality problems such as dumping and contaminated wastewater, and restoration potential. Over 60 existing stormwater control measures were also assessed to determine if their water quality benefits can be improved.

Assessment results, watershed maps, and other relevant information on stormwater management can be found on the Little Lick Creek Watershed Web page and updates will continue to be posted on Facebook and Twitter.

For additional information on the project, contact Project Manager Sandra Wilbur with the Stormwater and GIS Services Division in the City's Public Works Department at (919) 560-4326 ext. 30286 or by <a href="mailto:emailt

## About the Public Works Department Stormwater and GIS Services Division

The <u>Stormwater and GIS Services Division</u> with the City of Durham <u>Public Works Department</u> is guided by the City's <u>Strategic Plan</u> goals of Stewardship of City's Physical and Environmental Assets as well as Innovative and High-Performing Organization. Activities include storm drainage design and plans review; inspecting and maintaining City-owned drainage systems; enforcing stormwater ordinances and regulations; education and outreach; stream monitoring, restoration, and watershed master planning; maintaining multiple layers of the City's geographic information; and stormwater billing. To learn more, visit the <u>Web page</u>, like on <u>Facebook</u>, and follow on <u>Twitter</u>.

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